

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Herschel[★] PEP/HerMES: On the redshift evolution ($0 \leq z \leq 4$) of dust attenuation and of the total (UV+IR) star formation rate density

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ABSTRACT

Context. Using new homogeneous Luminosity Functions (LFs) in the FUV (VVDS) and in the FIR *Herschel*/PEP and *Herschel*/HerMES, we study the evolution of the dust attenuation with redshift. With this information in hand, we are able to estimate the redshift evolution of the total (FUV + FIR) star formation rate density (SFRD_{TOT}). By integrating SFRD_{TOT}, we follow the mass building and analyze the redshift evolution of the stellar mass density (SMD).

Aims. This letter aims at providing a complete view of star formation from the local universe to $z \sim 4$ and, using assumptions on earlier star formation history, compares this evolution to what was known before in an attempt to draw a homogeneous picture of the global evolution of star formation in galaxies.

Methods.

Results. The main conclusions of this letter are: 1) the dust attenuation A_{FUV} is found to increase from $z = 0$ to $z \sim 1.2$ and then starts to decrease up to our last data point at $z = 3.6$; 2) the estimated SFRD confirms published results up to $z \sim 2$. At $z > 2$, we observe either a plateau or a small increase up to $z \sim 3$ and then a likely decrease up to $z = 3.6$; 3) the peak of A_{FUV} is delayed with respect to the plateau of SFRD_{TOT} and a likely origin might be found in the evolution of the bright ends of the FUV and FIR LFs; 4) using assumptions (namely exponential rise and linear rise with time) for the evolution of the star formation density from $z = 3.6$ to $z_{form} = 10$, we integrate SFRD_{TOT} and find a good agreement with the published SMDs.

Conclusions.

Key words. Galaxies: starburst – Ultraviolet: galaxies – Infrared: galaxies – Galaxies: high-redshift – Cosmology: early universe

1. Introduction

One of the major objectives in astrophysics during the last 15 years or so has been to follow the cosmic star formation rate density (SFRD) at earlier and earlier epochs. But, whenever optical data are used, one must apply a dust correction to luminosity densities (LDs) and a calibration into SFRDs (with their associated uncertainties) to obtain a relevant estimate. Knowing how the dust attenuation evolves in redshift is therefore mandatory if one wishes to study the redshift evolution of the SFRD.

For instance, Takeuchi et al.(2005) estimate the cosmic evolution of the SFRD from far-ultraviolet (FUV) and far-infrared

(FIR = bolometric IR). They find an increase of the fraction of hidden SFR from 56% locally to 84% at $z = 1$. The LDs show a significant evolution as the FIR LD evolves faster than the FUV. Their ratio ρ_{FIR}/ρ_{FUV} increases from ~ 4 ($A_{FUV} \sim 1.3$ mag) locally to ~ 15 ($A_{FUV} \sim 2.3$ mag) at $z = 1$. Cucciati et al.(2012) used the VIMOS-VLT Deep Survey to show, from the FUV only that the mean dust attenuation A_{FUV} is in agreement with Takeuchi et al.(2005) over the range $0 < z < 1$. Then it remains at the same level up to $z \sim 2$, and declines to ~ 1 mag at $z \sim 4$.

In this letter, we use the FUV luminosity functions (LFs) published by Cucciati et al.(2012) from the VLT along with the

FIR LFs from *Herschel*-PACS+SPIRE data¹ of a PACS selected sample from Gruppioni et al.(2013) to constrain the redshift evolution of $\log_{10}(L_{FIR}/L_{FUV})$ (aka *IRX*) up to $z \sim 4$ for the first time directly using FIR data. With this information in hand, we can estimate the redshift evolution of ρ_{FIR}/ρ_{FUV} as well as $\rho_{TOT} = \rho_{FIR} + \rho_{FUV}$. Finally, by integrating ρ_{TOT} , we estimate the cosmic evolution of stellar mass density (SMD) with redshift.

Throughout this paper we adopt a Λ CDM cosmology with $(H_0, \Omega_m, \Omega_\Lambda) = (70, 0.3, 0.7)$, where H_0 is in $\text{kms}^{-1}\text{Mpc}^{-1}$. All SFR and stellar masses presented assume, or have been converted to, a Salpeter IMF.

2. Luminosity Functions

Our analysis at $z \sim 0$ is based on the FUV LF from Wyder et al.(2005) and the FIR LF from Takeuchi et al.(2005), and for $0 < z < 4$ on the FUV LF from Cucciati et al.(2012) and the FIR LF from Gruppioni et al.(2013). In the FIR and at $z > 0$, the sample is selected in the PACS bands but uses the full *Herschel*-PACS + *Herschel*-SPIRE SED data. The PACS selection means that we can miss sources towards the upper end of the redshift range. The LFs are evaluated from homogeneous datasets in the FUV and the FIR. This minimizes biases and keeps the same reference indicator throughout cosmic times with a simple well-defined and controlled selection function. This is one of the strengths of this work. The FUV LFs are not corrected for dust attenuation. We define the LFs as a number density of galaxies with luminosity in logarithmic intervals, $[\log_{10}L, \log_{10}L + d\log_{10}L]$, where $\Phi(L) = dn/d\log_{10}L$ and the luminosity is defined as $L \equiv \nu L_\nu$. FIR luminosities are defined as: $\Phi(L) = \Phi_\star(\frac{L}{L_\star})^{1-\alpha} \exp(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2}[\log_{10}(1 + \frac{L}{L_\star})]^2)$.

Observed uncertainties from Cucciati et al.(2012) and from Gruppioni et al.(2013) are used whenever available. However, some of the Schechter parameters are fixed when the LFs are derived, namely α for the FUV LFs and α plus σ for the FIR LFs. Both in FUV and in FIR, we assume uncertainties of 10% up to $z = 1$, 20% up to $z = 2$ and 40% beyond for these fixed parameters. This level of uncertainty is similar to previous works in FUV by e.g. Oesch et al.(2010), van den Burg et al.(2010) and in FIR by Casey et al.(2012). We propagate uncertainties by simulating 2000 realizations drawn from $1-\sigma$ Gaussian distributions for each parameter with known uncertainties and from a flat distribution (i.e. equiprobability) for the fixed ones. We assume that all fixed values are equiprobable given the weak observational constraints. Finally, we interpolate the FUV and FIR Schechter parameters on the same redshift grid between $z = 0$ and $z = 3.6$.

Tab. 1 and Fig. 1 show the redshift variation of the LFs in FIR. The known difference in the FIR and FUV LFs Takeuchi et al.(2005) are clearly illustrated here: bright FIR galaxies are more numerous than bright FUV galaxies at $\log_{10}(L/L_\odot) > 10$. In FUV, except in the highest redshift bins, L^\star and Φ^\star remain approximately constant while the faint-end slope evolves. The FIR faint end slope is not observationally constrained at high z , and Cucciati et al.(2012) fix it to $\alpha = 1.2$. However, L^\star and Φ^\star are allowed to change with redshift. These different evolutions of the FUV and FIR LFs are reflected in Fig. 1 and explain the evolution of the cosmic SFRD and dust attenuation.

3. Dust Attenuation traced by the FIR to FUV LD ratio

Fig. 2 presents the dust attenuation in the FUV vs. z and the ratio of the FIR to FUV LDs integrated in the range $\log_{10}(L/L_\odot) = [7, 14]$ in the FUV (i.e. $L_{FUV}^{min} = 1.65 \times 10^{-4} L_{z=3}^\star$, Bouwens et al.(2009)) and $[8, 14]$ in the FIR. The FUV dust attenuation is estimated from the *IRX* and converted to A_{FUV} using Burgarella et al.(2005)². The redshift evolution of A_{FUV} is in agreement with Cucciati et al.(2012). Note that Cucciati et al.(2012) estimated A_{FUV} through an analysis of individual SEDs up to $\lambda_{obs} = 2.2\mu\text{m}$ (Ks-band). Fig. 2 suggests the presence of a local minimum at $z \sim 2$ that might be due to UV-faint galaxies (see Fig. 7 in Cucciati et al.(2012)) that are responsible for a peak observed in the FUV LD and not observed in the FIR. Since the fields observed in FUV and in FIR are not the same ones, another origin might be found in cosmic variance. The bottomline is that the existence of this trough in A_{FUV} seems dubious. Finally, higher redshift A_{FUV} from the UV slope, β , suggest a continuous decline at least up to $z = 6$ (Bouwens et al.(2009)).

We conclude that the cosmic dust attenuation A_{FUV} reaches an absolute maximum at $z \sim 1.2$ followed by a global decline to $z = 3.6$ where it reaches about the same level measured at $z = 0$.

The β method is popular because estimates the total SFR from the FUV only. This is most useful at high redshifts where the samples are UV-selected (Burgarella et al.(2011), Bouwens et al.(2012), Heinis et al.(2013)). We propose to follow the redshift evolution of the cosmic volume-averaged points in the *IRX* – β diagram (Fig. 3) to constrain models. However, we must caution that the values plotted in Fig. 3 cannot be directly compared to galaxies. The x-axis is calculated from the averaged rest-frame FUV - near-UV colors (Cortese et al.(2006)). Horizontal error bars indicate the dispersion of the FUV slope. The *IRX* is estimated from LFs and is therefore volume-corrected. Vertical error bars are uncertainties. This *IRX* – β plot can be interpreted as the location of a comoving volume as a function of redshift. From $z \sim 1$ to $z \sim 4$, the points evolve downwards parallel to the original Meurer et al.(1999) law and the update by Takeuchi et al.(2012).

4. The total FUV+FIR Star Formation Density and Stellar Mass Density

The calibration from LD to SFRD is problematic (Kobayashi et al.(2013)) in the FUV and also in the FIR (Kennicutt(1998), Schaerer et al.(2013)). In agreement with Casey et al.(2012), we use Kennicutt(1998) calibrations and assume a Salpeter initial mass function (IMF) to allow a better comparison with other published SFRDs. Note that the AGN contribution to the FIR LDs has been estimated in FIR using a SED fitting and subtracted off i.e. the presented FIR LD is due to star formation only.

Fig. 4 suggests a flattening of the total SFRD up to $z \sim 3$ (Chary & Elbaz(2001), Perez-Gonzalez et al.(2005), Le Floch et al.(2005), Franceschini et al.(2010)) where the UV data favour a peak followed by a decrease. Note that we could not rule out a small increase or decrease within the uncertainties. The plateau up to $z \sim 2.5$ is seen by Rodighiero et al.(2010) and Magnelli et al.(2011) while the decrease of ρ_{SFR} at $z \geq$

¹ From two *Herschel* Large Programmes: PACS Evolutionary Probe (Lutz et al.(2011)) and the *Herschel* Multi-tiered Extragalactic Survey (HerMES, Oliver et al.(2012))

² The conversion from *IRX* to A_{FUV} from Burgarella et al.(2005) is valid at $\log_{10}(L_{FIR}/L_{FUV}) > -1.2$: $A_{FUV} = -0.028 [\log_{10} L_{FIR}/L_{FUV}]^3 + 0.392 [\log_{10} L_{FIR}/L_{FUV}]^2 + 1.094 [\log_{10} L_{FIR}/L_{FUV}] + 0.546$

Table 1. Schechter parameter for FUV and FIR luminosity functions.

Redshift range	M^* or $L^{\star a}$	Φ_{\star}	α	σ^b
FUV luminosity functions				
$0.0 < z < 0.1^c$	-18.04 ± 0.11	-2.370 ± 0.06	-1.22 ± 0.07	—
$0.05 < z < 0.2^d$	-18.12 ± 0.00	-2.155 ± 0.03	-1.05 ± 0.04	—
$0.2 < z < 0.4^d$	-18.3 ± 0.20	-2.161 ± 0.06	-1.17 ± 0.05	—
$0.4 < z < 0.6^d$	-18.4 ± 0.10	-2.180 ± 0.06	-1.07 ± 0.07	—
$0.6 < z < 0.8^d$	-18.3 ± 0.10	-2.021 ± 0.05	-0.90 ± 0.08	—
$0.8 < z < 1.0^d$	-18.7 ± 0.10	-2.045 ± 0.05	-0.85 ± 0.10	—
$1.0 < z < 1.2^d$	-19.0 ± 0.20	-2.129 ± 0.07	-0.91 ± 0.16	—
$1.2 < z < 1.7^d$	-19.6 ± 0.20	-2.387 ± 0.10	-1.09 ± 0.23	—
$1.7 < z < 2.5^d$	-20.4 ± 0.10	-2.472 ± 0.03	-1.30 ± -0.26	—
$2.5 < z < 3.5^d$	-21.4 ± 0.10	-3.066 ± 0.03	-1.50 ± -0.60	—
$3.5 < z < 4.5^d$	-22.2 ± 0.20	-3.959 ± 0.04	-1.73 ± -0.69	—
FIR luminosity functions				
$z = 0^e$	9.25 ± 0.00	-2.051 ± 0.00	1.23 ± 0.00	0.72 ± 0.00
$0.0 < z < 0.3^f$	10.12 ± 0.16	-2.29 ± 0.06	1.15 ± 0.05	0.52 ± 0.05
$0.3 < z < 0.45^f$	10.41 ± 0.03	-2.31 ± 0.03	1.2 ± -0.12	0.5 ± -0.05
$0.45 < z < 0.6^f$	10.55 ± 0.03	-2.35 ± 0.05	1.2 ± -0.12	0.5 ± -0.05
$0.6 < z < 0.8^f$	10.71 ± 0.03	-2.35 ± 0.06	1.2 ± -0.12	0.5 ± -0.05
$0.8 < z < 1.0^f$	10.97 ± 0.04	-2.40 ± 0.05	1.2 ± -0.12	0.5 ± -0.05
$1.0 < z < 1.2^f$	11.13 ± 0.04	-2.40 ± 0.05	1.2 ± -0.24	0.5 ± -0.10
$1.2 < z < 1.7^f$	11.37 ± 0.03	-2.70 ± 0.04	1.2 ± -0.24	0.5 ± -0.10
$1.7 < z < 2.0^f$	11.50 ± 0.03	-2.85 ± 0.03	1.2 ± -0.24	0.5 ± -0.10
$2.0 < z < 2.5^f$	11.60 ± 0.03	-3.01 ± 0.11	1.2 ± -0.48	0.5 ± -0.20
$2.5 < z < 3.0^f$	11.92 ± 0.08	-3.27 ± 0.18	1.2 ± -0.48	0.5 ± -0.20
$3.0 < z < 4.2^f$	11.90 ± 0.16	-3.74 ± 0.12	1.2 ± -0.48	0.5 ± -0.20

Notes. The top panel lists the FUV LF and the bottom panel lists the FIR LF. For all the parameters with an uncertainty set to 0.00, we assumed 20% or error. ^(a) L^{\star} [L_{\odot}] for FIR LF or M^{\star} [AB mag] for FUV LF ^(b) σ only needed for FIR LF ^(c) from Wyder et al.(2005) ^(d) from Takeuchi et al.(2005) ^(e) Cucciati et al.(2012) ^(f) Gruppioni et al.(2013)

2.5 is predicted by Béthermin et al.(2012a)'s model based on evolution of mass function and sSFR estimated from LBGs. All in all, our total SFRD is in fair agreement with that of Hopkins & Beacom(2006) in the same redshift range. However, discrepancies exist: our total SFRD is lower at $z < 1$ and is only marginally consistent but lower at $z > 3$. Also, note that PACS data are less sensitive at higher than at lower redshift since the rest-frame wavelength moves into the mid-IR. The preliminary FIR SFRD from Vaccari et al.(2013) (*Herschel*/SPIRE selection) is in excellent agreement over the $0 < z \leq 2$ range but is slightly higher than that derived from PACS at $z > 3$. However, this is only a $\sim 2\sigma$ difference. Barger et al.(2012) published a FIR SFRD based on SCUBA-2 data that is also in agreement with ours at $2 < z < 4$. We first tried to fit SFRD_{TOT} with a one-peak analytical function (Hopkins & Beacom(2006), Behroozi, Wechsler & Conroy(2012)) but the results are not satisfactory. So, we combined two Gaussians:

$$a_1 e^{-\frac{(z-z_1)^2}{2\sigma_1^2}} + a_2 e^{-\frac{(z-z_2)^2}{2\sigma_2^2}}$$

with $a_1 = 0.1261 \pm 0.0222$, $\sigma_1 = 0.5135 \pm 0.0704$, $z_1 = 1.1390 \pm 0.0959$ and $a_2 = 0.2294 \pm 0.0222$, $\sigma_2 = 0.8160 \pm 0.0964$, $z_2 = 2.7151 \pm 0.0839$. At higher redshifts, we made assumptions that are explained below.

The cosmic SFRD presents a (weak) maximum at $z \sim 2.5 - 3.0$ (i.e. between 2.6 - 2.1 Gyrs resp.) while the dust attenuation presents a maximum at $z \sim 1.2$ (i.e. 5 Gyrs). We have tried to lock the faint end slope of the UV LF -1.2, to see how far out in redshift the peak of obscuration could potentially move and we do not detect any change, suggesting this effect is solid. We have no definite explanation for this delay of ~ 2.7 Gyr. Type II supernovae start producing dust earlier than AGB stars (Valiante et al.(2009)) but the difference in timescales is too short and only on the order of a few 10 Myr for the onset of dust formation. Dust grain destruction in the ISM might play a role (Dwek & Cherchneff(2011)) but the efficiency of destruction is not well known and depends on the star formation history. These dust-related origins for the delayed maximum are not likely. The best explanation might be that this delay is related to a global move of galaxies in the $[\log_{10}(L_{FIR}/L_{FUV})$ vs. $\log_{10}(L_{FIR} +$

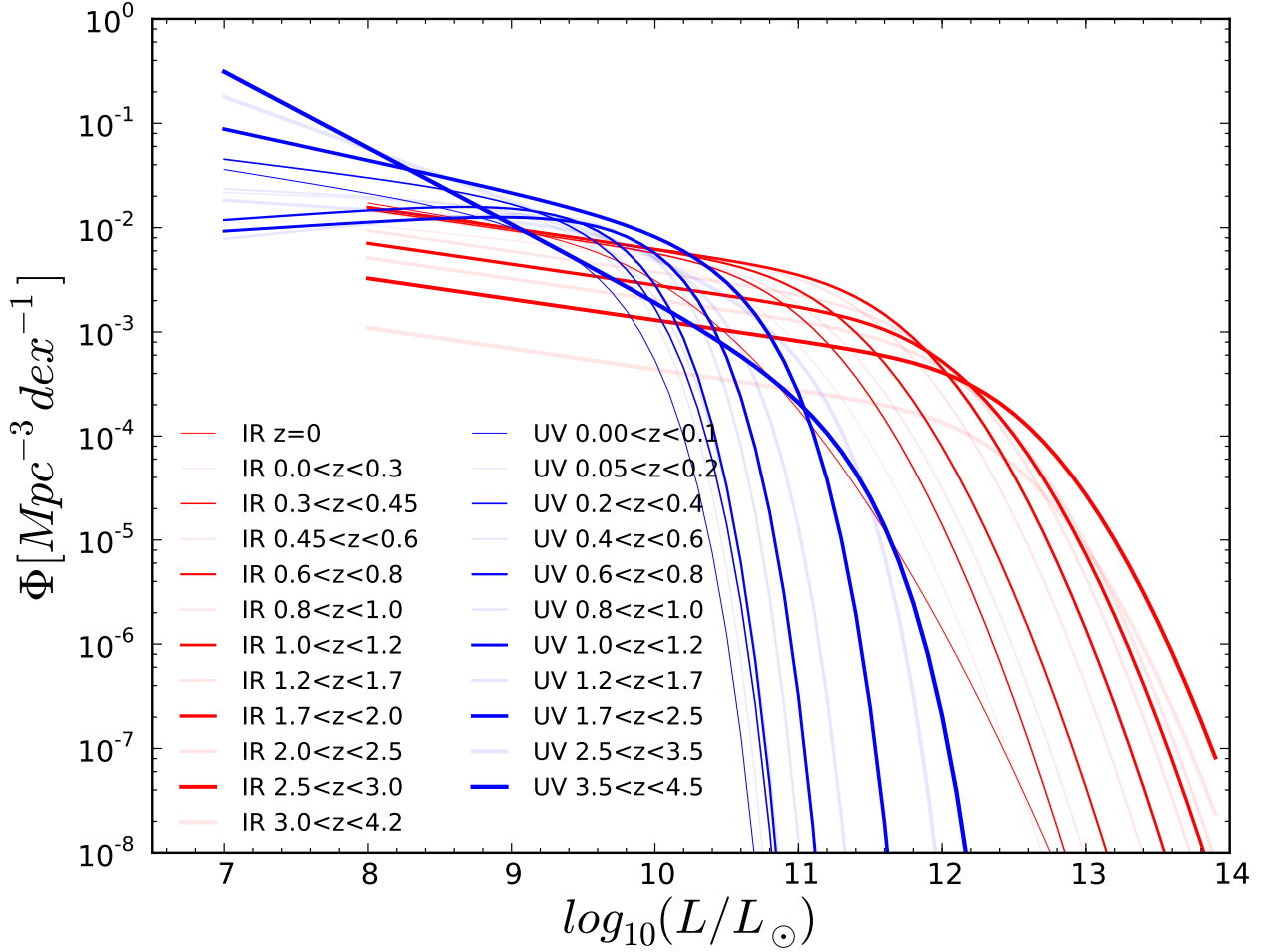


Fig. 1. Redshift evolution of the FIR from Gruppioni et al.(2013) (red) and FUV from Cucciati et al.(2012) (blue) LFs. Note that the FUV LFs are uncorrected for dust attenuation. The LFs at every other redshift are plotted boldly. The others are fainter to lighten the figure. The LFs are plotted within the limits of integration.

L_{FUV}] diagram. Buat et al.(2009) showed that galaxies evolve in redshift from $z = 0$ to $z = 2$ in this diagram, with high redshift sources having lower *IRX* at given total luminosities. This change is likely related to systematic changes of the FIR SEDs themselves (Elbaz et al.(2011), Nordon et al.(2012)). This suggests that the shift might be caused by the relative importance of more luminous galaxies ($\log_{10} L_{FUV}[L_{\odot}] \geq 10$) in the FUV as z evolves.

By integrating the SFRD, we can estimate the stellar-mass density (SMD) (Fig. 5 and Tab. 2). To do so, we stress that we set the mass fraction of a generation of stars that is returned to the interstellar medium to a fixed value $R = 0.3$ (Fraternali & Tomassetti(2012)). We also have to assume a star formation history from $z = 3.6$ up to the galaxy formation set at $z_{form} = 10$. Option 1 is a linear extrapolation while option 2 corresponds to a rising exponential $e^{t/\tau}$ with $\tau = 0.42$ as in Papovich et al.(2011) that joins the observationally-deduced SFRD³.

Superimposed in Fig. 5 are recent SMDs (converted to Salpeter IMF if needed). Stark et al.(2013) account for the nebular emission lines contribution to the broad-band fluxes used

to infer stellar masses (Ono et al.(2010), de Barros et al.(2012)). The trend from Labbe et al.(2010) lies above our points. The others SMDs are in agreement within the uncertainties at $0.6 < z < 3.6$ for the two above options. Wilkins et al.(2008) compile measurements of the SMD from the literature and provide a best fit parametric law $\rho_{\star}(z) = ae^{-bz^c}$ where $a = 0.0023$, $b = 0.68$ and $c = 1.2$. We also overplot it in Fig. 5. This curve slightly underestimates our SMF at very low redshifts but at higher redshifts, it follows the points derived from our data and our assumptions.

We reach a fair agreement, especially at $0.6 < z < 3.6$. The discrepancy previously observed is reduced here but still marginally consistent at very low redshifts. As shown in Fig. 4, our total SFRD generally lies below Hopkins & Beacom(2006) suggesting that this previous evaluation of dust attenuation might be over-estimated in this redshift range. Making use of FIR data allows us to reach a better agreement. Note that Hopkins & Beacom(2006) did not directly use MIR-based data to estimate their best-fitting parametric curve but only to correct the obscuration of the FUV data.

Fig. 6 shows the variation of the cosmic specific star formation rate (sSFR = SFRD/SMD) as a function of redshift. Previous observational results often suggest a flat evolution of the sSFR at $z > 2$ (Gonzalez et al.(2012), Bouwens et al.(2012),

³ Selecting option 1 or 2 does not impact on Fig. 4.

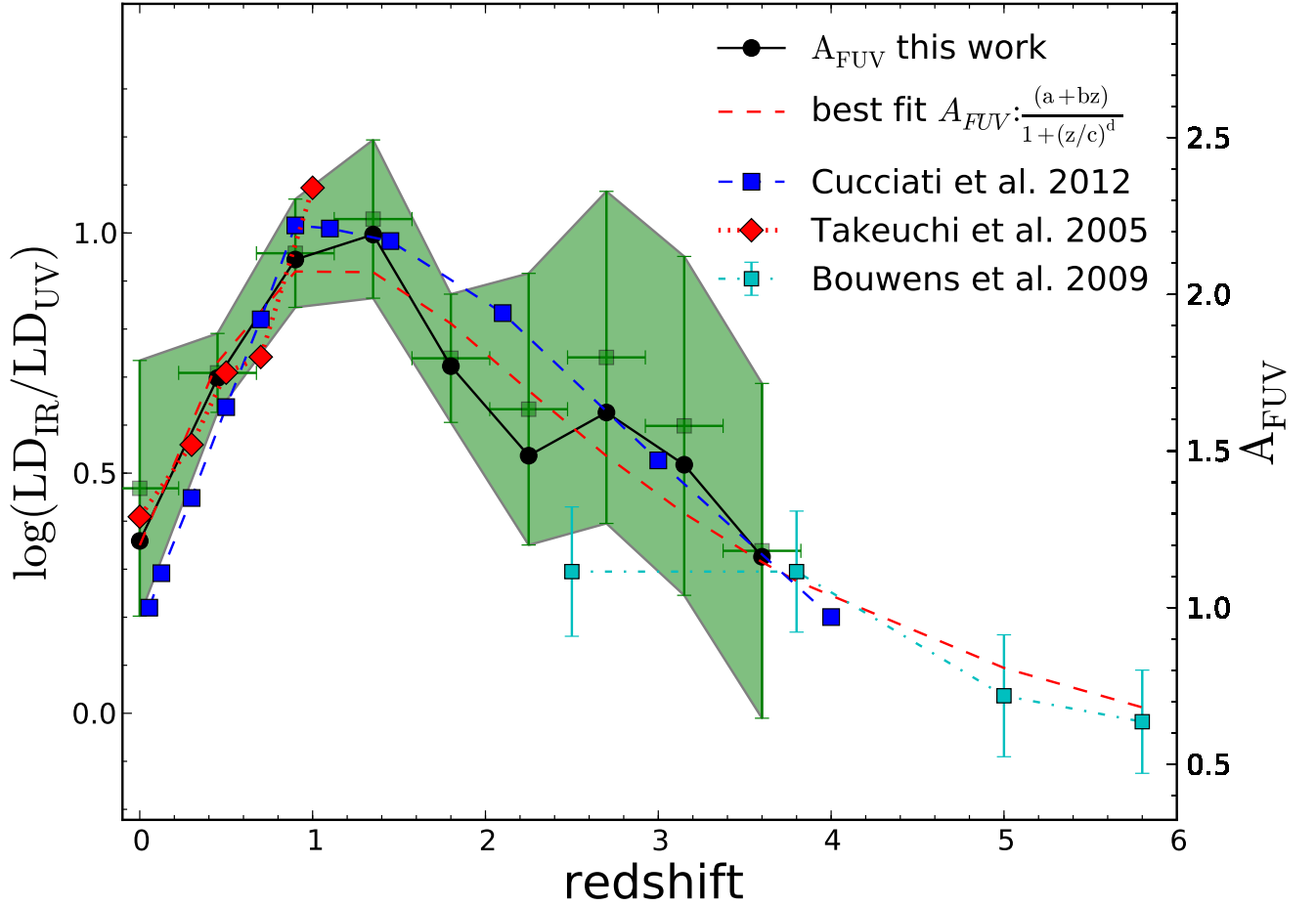


Fig. 2. Left axis: ratio of the FIR to FUV LDs (IRX). Right axis: FUV dust attenuation (A_{FUV}). The red dotted line with red diamonds is from Takeuchi, Buat & Burgarella (2005). The green filled area and green dots are the associated uncertainties estimated through bootstrapping with 2 000 drawings. Black dots are the values directly computed from the LFs. At $z = 3.6$, A_{FUV} reaches about the same value as at $z = 0$. Takeuchi et al.(2005) (red diamonds) used an approach identical to ours while a SED analysis (no FIR data) is performed in Cucciati et al.(2012) (blue boxes). Bouwens et al.(2009) are estimates based on the UV slope β . The limiting FUV luminosity is $10^7 L_\odot$ or $1.65 \times 10^{-4} L_{z=3}^*$. The best fit is given by $A_{FUV}(z) = \frac{(a+bz)}{1+(z/c)^d}$ with $a = 1.20$, $b = 1.50$, $c = 1.77$, and $d = 2.19$.

Schaerer et al.(2013)) while most theoretical models predict a continuous rise (Bouche et al.(2010), Weinmann et al.(2011), Dave et al.(2011)). No matter what hypothesis selected to extrapolate the observed SFRD beyond $z > 3.6$ to $z_{form} = 10$, our sSFRs remain consistent with an increase at low redshifts. The influence of the SFRD assumed at $z > 3.6$ is not noticeable within the uncertainties at $z < 3.6$. A comparison with the sSFR of galaxies from Noeske et al.(2007), Daddi et al.(2007), Wuyts et al.(2011) and Bouwens et al.(2012) in Fig. 6 suggests that the most massive galaxies ($\log_{10} M_\star = 10^{10.5} - 10^{11} [M_\odot]$) are in agreement with our sSFRs (we corrected the SMDs to $R = 0.3$ and we applied a correction to the calibration to SFR if necessary). Finally, we note that at higher redshifts, option 1 keeps on rising while option 2 shows a flattening at $4 < z < 5$ followed by an increase at $z > 5$. We stress, though, that by assuming an exponential rise above $z > 4$ with a value of the time constant $\tau = 420$ Myrs as in Papovich et al.(2011) and the formation of galaxies at $z_{form} = 10$ implies that the observed plateau at $4 < z < 5$ must be temporary. Changing τ and/or z_{form} to larger redshifts

would shift the increase in sSFR to earlier times. Theoretically, fixing $z_{form} = \infty$ would translate into a flat sSFR.

5. Discussion and Conclusions

The variation of the cosmic dust attenuation with redshift as estimated from the IR to FUV luminosity ratio suggests the presence of a peak in the dust attenuation at $z \sim 1.2$ followed by a decline up to $z = 3.6$. This result confirms Cucciati et al.(2012) dust attenuation estimated from SED fitting without FIR data. Moreover, the redshift evolution of the volume-corrected $IRX - \beta$ points globally follows the $IRX - \beta$ law from $z = 0.4$ to $z = 3.6$.

The total (FUV+FIR) cosmic SFRD starts declining above $z = 3 - 4$ and reaches the same level at $z \sim 5 - 6$ as is measured locally if we assume no variations in this trend. At $z = 3 - 4$, the decrease observed in the SFRD is not unexpected: most high redshift studies clearly suggest such a trend through rest-frame UV observations (Hopkins & Beacom(2006), Bouwens et al.(2011)) and predicted by Béthermin et al.(2012a). Backwards in time

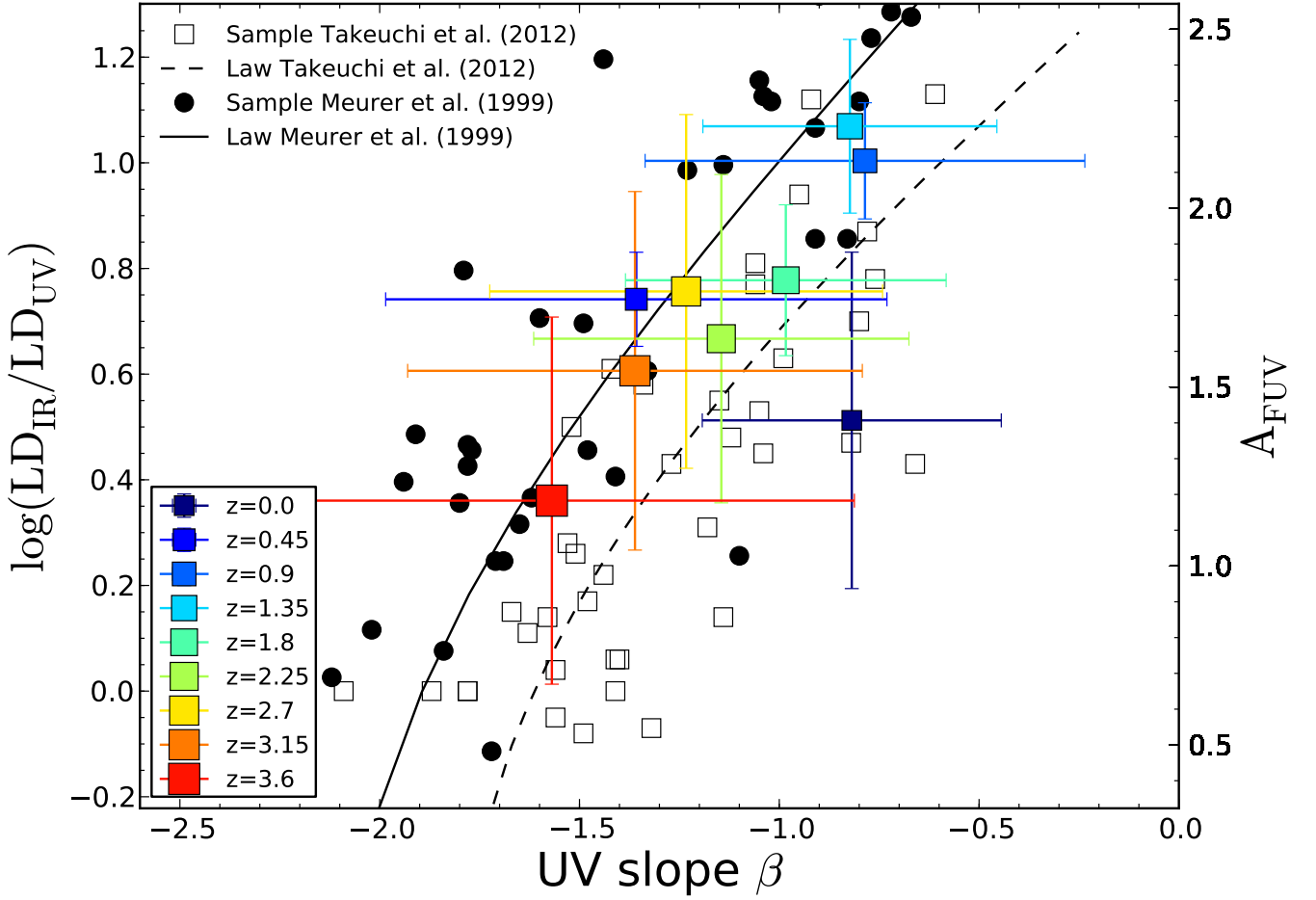


Fig. 3. Dust attenuation vs. redshift. The boxes are color-coded according to redshift. Note that the x-axis bars correspond to the dispersion in UV slope while the y-axis are evaluated from the uncertainties in the LFs. The black dots are the original data points from Meurer et al.(1999) and the black curve is Meurer et al.(1999)’s law. The black dashed line and grey boxes are the update (using the same apertures in FUV and in FIR) from Takeuchi et al.(2012). Strictly speaking, our points and those from Meurer et al.(1999) are not comparable because we use volume-corrected LFs and not individual galaxies as done in Meurer et al.(1999). In the diagram, they show an almost continuous decrease with increasing redshift and lie in between the Meurer et al.(1999) and Takeuchi et al.(2012) laws. It is important to stress that the dust attenuation A_{FUV} are estimated from the IRX and not from the UV slope β .

from today, this decline is preceded by a rise from $z \sim 0$ to a break at $z \sim 1 - 2$, followed by a plateau up to $z = 3 - 4$.

If we compare Fig. 2 to Fig. 4, the peak of the dust attenuation is delayed with respect to the plateau of the total SFRD. It is also coeval with the final decrease at $z = 1 - 1.5$, the peak of the less luminous AGNs (Hopkins(2007)). A similar peak seems to appear at $z = 1 - 2$ (depending on the stellar mass) of the cosmological merger rate (Conselice et al.(2008)) and of the CIB (Béthermin et al.(2012b)). Are all these effects related to the same physical phenomena and what are their characteristic timescales? To better understand the delay, it is necessary to perform an analysis via models that are fed with data of the gas content and the evolution of metallicity.

Using the observed cosmic SFRD along with the assumption of an exponential rise from $z_{form} = 10$ to $z = 3.6$, we are able to recover the SMD evaluated from galaxy surveys. With the same assumption, we predict a flattening of the sSFR at $3 < z < 5$ followed by a new steepening at $z > 5$.

Fig. 2 and Fig. 4 taken together at face value would suggest that the universe’s dusty era (meaning dust attenuation larger than in the local universe) started at $z = 3 - 4$ simultaneously with the rise of a universe-wide star-formation event.

Fig. 4, Fig. 5, and Fig. 6 allow us to follow the SFRD, the SMD, and the sSFR over most of the Hubble time in a consistent way. However, large uncertainties prevent us from closing the case. Additionally, it remains quite puzzling that GRB-based analyses suggest a much shallower decrease (Kistler et al.(2009), Robertson & Ellis(2012)) than Lyman break galaxies. The statistical significance of these results is still debated because of the low number of objects at high redshifts and a possible modification of the IMF (Dwek & Cherchneff(2011), Hayward et al.(2013)). Another possibility is that GRBs might still be biased toward certain types of SFGs, even though this bias may be less than thought a few years ago.

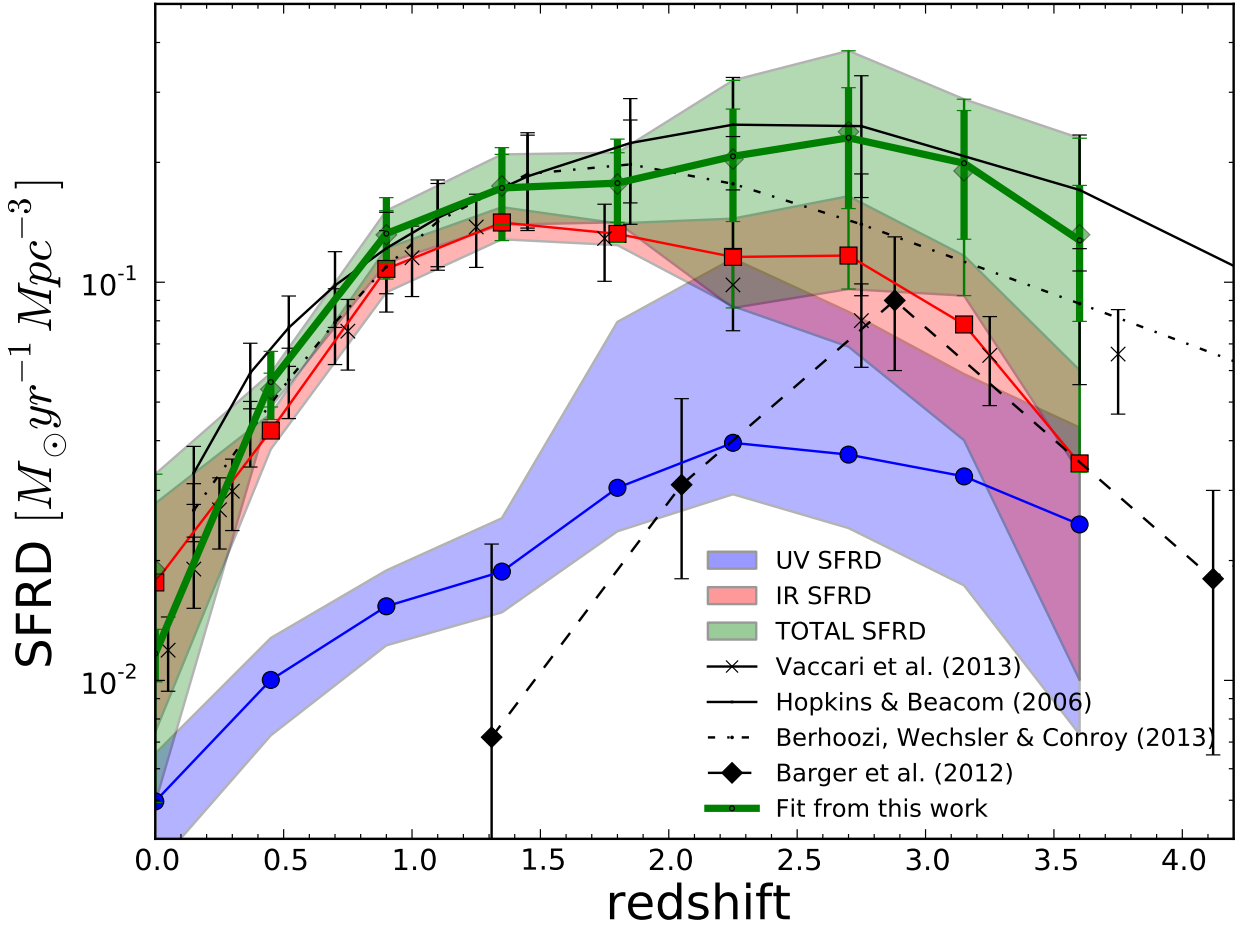


Fig. 4. SFRD densities in the FUV (blue), in the FIR (red) and in total (i.e. FUV + FIR) in green (other colors are due to overlaps of the previous colors). The lines are the mean values while the lighter colors shows the uncertainties evaluated from the 2 000 runs as in Fig. 2. After the initial increase of the total SFRD from $z = 0$ to $z \sim 1.2$, it remains flat or slightly increases/decreases up to $z \sim 2.5$ – 3.0 followed by a decrease. Globally and over $0 < z \leq 3.6$, the total average SFRD is slightly below Hopkins & Beacom(2006)’s and in agreement with Behroozi, Wechsler & Conroy(2012) up to $z \sim 2$. SFRD from Barger et al.(2012) and preliminary results from *Herschel*/SPIRE estimated by Vaccari et al.(2013) are in agreement with these trends. Symbols and lines are explained in the plot.

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Table 2. Evolution of the FUV and FIR LDs, the mean dust attenuation and the cosmic SFRDs in FUV and FIR. $\text{SFR}_{\text{Hidden}}$ corresponds to the percentage of SFRD in dust, SFRD_{TOT} is the total (i.e. FUV + FIR) SFRD and β is the mean slope estimated for the galaxies in the FUV sample. Lower limits of integration are $L_{\text{FUV}}^{\text{min}} = 10^7 L_{\odot}$ and $L_{\text{FIR}}^{\text{min}} = 10^8 L_{\odot}$ and upper limits are $L_{\text{UV}}^{\text{max}} = L_{\text{FIR}}^{\text{max}} = 10^{14} L_{\odot}$.

z_{mean}	$\text{LD}_{\text{IR}}/\text{LD}_{\text{UV}}$	A_{FUV}^a [mag]	$\text{SFRD}_{\text{FUV}}^b$ [$10^{-2} \text{M}_{\odot} \text{yr}^{-1} \text{Mpc}^{-3}$]	$\text{SFRD}_{\text{FIR}}^c$ [$10^{-2} \text{M}_{\odot} \text{yr}^{-1} \text{Mpc}^{-3}$]	$\text{SFRD}_{\text{TOT}}^d$ [$10^{-2} \text{M}_{\odot} \text{yr}^{-1} \text{Mpc}^{-3}$]	$\text{SFRD}_{\text{Hidden}}^e$ fraction	β^f
0.0	4.25 ± 3.25	1.38 ± 0.40	$0.50^{+0.16}_{-0.16}$	1.76 ± 1.02	1.86 ± 0.99	0.69 ± 0.10	-0.87 ± 0.37
0.45	7.11 ± 1.29	1.75 ± 0.13	$1.00^{+0.28}_{-0.28}$	4.24 ± 0.43	5.41 ± 0.54	0.82 ± 0.03	-1.41 ± 0.63
0.9	11.84 ± 2.75	2.14 ± 0.17	$1.54^{+0.38}_{-0.31}$	10.80 ± 1.37	13.10 ± 1.93	0.88 ± 0.03	-0.84 ± 0.55
1.35	13.44 ± 4.68	2.24 ± 0.25	$1.88^{+0.68}_{-0.39}$	14.13 ± 1.31	17.44 ± 3.39	0.89 ± 0.04	-0.87 ± 0.37
1.8	7.66 ± 2.40	1.80 ± 0.21	$3.05^{+4.90}_{-0.68}$	13.22 ± 0.83	17.70 ± 3.55	0.82 ± 0.04	-1.03 ± 0.40
2.25	6.03 ± 4.97	1.63 ± 0.45	$3.95^{+7.51}_{-1.92}$	11.58 ± 2.87	19.95 ± 11.73	0.74 ± 0.11	-1.20 ± 0.47
2.7	7.59 ± 6.99	1.79 ± 0.51	$3.69^{+1.92}_{-1.28}$	11.67 ± 4.78	24.03 ± 14.85	0.75 ± 0.15	-1.28 ± 0.49
3.15	5.54 ± 5.59	1.56 ± 0.52	$3.25^{+2.63}_{-1.85}$	7.83 ± 3.82	19.06 ± 10.28	0.68 ± 0.18	-1.41 ± 0.57
3.6	3.16 ± 3.55	1.19 ± 0.52	$2.46^{+1.85}_{-1.73}$	3.51 ± 2.51	12.84 ± 9.68	0.53 ± 0.23	-1.62 ± 0.76

Notes. ^(a) calibrated from $\log_{10} \text{LD}_{\text{IR}}/\text{LD}_{\text{UV}}$ using Burgarella et al.(2005). Changing the limits of integration to $\log_{10}(L[L_{\odot}]) = [4, 14]$ (resp. [9, 14]) in FUV and [5, 14] (resp. [10, 14]) in FIR would change A_{FUV} by < 0.1 (resp. ~ -0.2) at $z \sim 3-4$ and < 0.05 below $z < 2$. ^(b) calibrated from LD_{UV} using Kennicutt(1998) ^(c) calibrated from LD_{IR} using Kennicutt(1998) ^(d) computed as $\text{SFRD}_{\text{UV}} + \text{SFRD}_{\text{IR}}$. Note that the values presented in this column are larger than $\text{SFRD}_{\text{FUV}} + \text{SFRD}_{\text{FIR}}$ from the two previous columns because it is the mean of the 2000 realizations estimated from the LF's which happen to be above the sum of the SFRDs estimated by Cucciati et al.(2012) and Gruppioni et al.(2013). Changing the limits of integration to $\log_{10}(L[L_{\odot}]) = [4, 14]$ (resp. [9, 14]) in FUV and [5, 14] (resp. [10, 14]) in FIR would change SFRD_{TOT} by less than +8% (resp. -8%) at $z \leq 2.7$ but by +56% and +158% at $z_{\text{mean}} = 3.15$ and $z_{\text{mean}} = 3.6$ (resp -15% and -32%). ^(e) computed as $\text{SFRD}_{\text{UV}}/\text{SFRD}_{\text{IR}}$ ^(f) This column presents the mean β only for the objects detected in UV.

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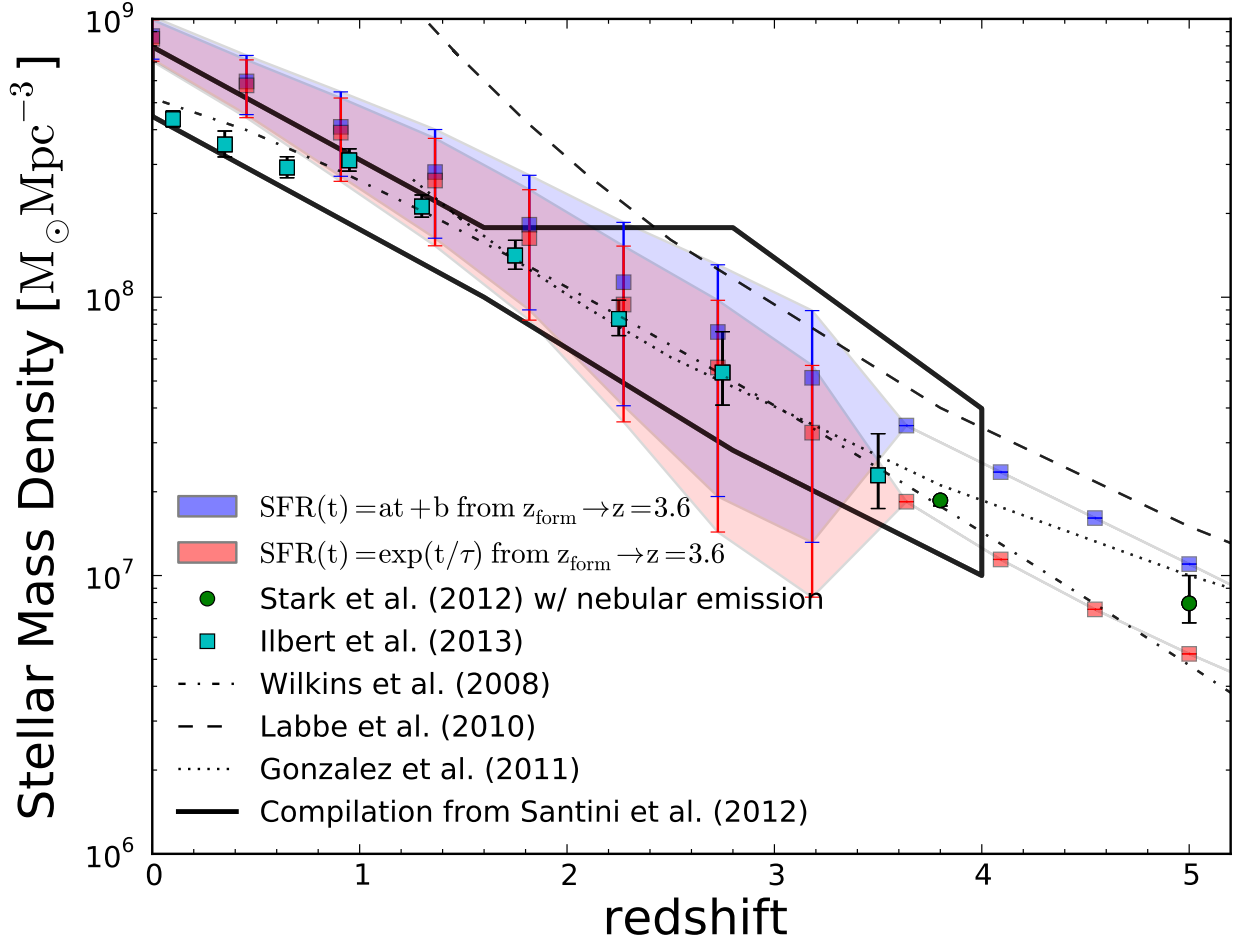


Fig. 5. Evolution of the cosmic SMD vs. redshift. The lines with blue and red boxes are the mean values evaluated by integration while the lighter colors show the uncertainties from the 2 000 runs as in previous figures. We overplot the trends found by Labbe et al.(2010) at $z = 7 - 8$, Gonzalez et al.(2011) and Stark et al.(2013) at $3 < z < 7$. We also plot the line corresponding to the compilation of published measurements by Wilkins et al.(2008). Within the uncertainties, we find a good agreement of the SMD integrated from the SFRD with all other SMDs based on galaxy surveys from $z = 0.6$ to $z = 5$. The black-limited area represents the compilation of results by Santini et al.(2012). Scaled to the same cosmology and IMF (Salpeter). Using Gonzalez et al.(2011), we integrate down to luminosities equivalent to $M \sim 2500 M_{\odot}$.

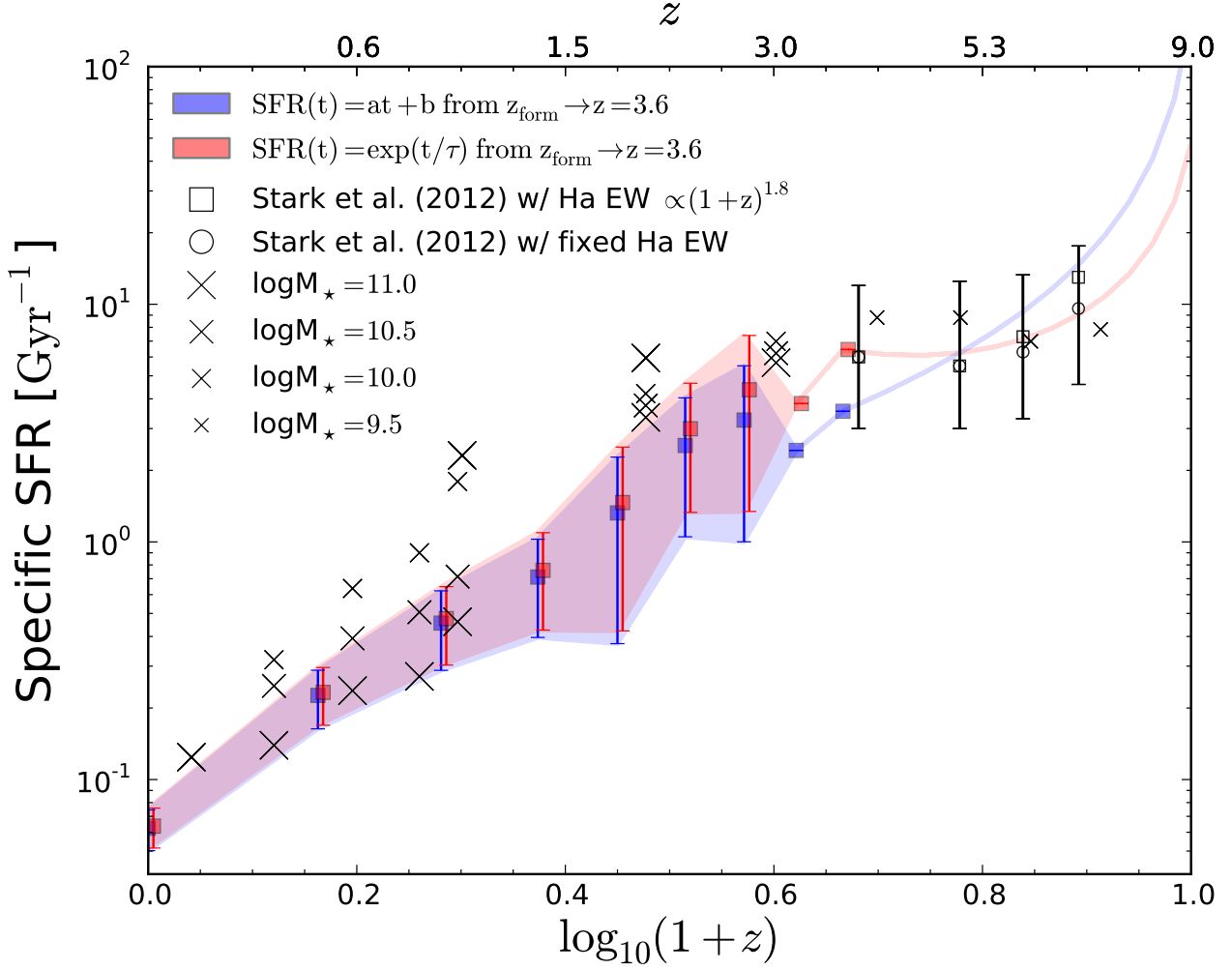


Fig. 6. Cosmic sSFR vs. z extrapolated beyond the observed limit at $z = 3.6$ with different options (see text). At $z \lesssim 4$, crosses are extracted from several galaxy surveys and are shown as a function of the considered $\log_{10} M_*$ by Noeske et al.(2007), Daddi et al.(2007) and Wuyts et al.(2011) and at $z > 4$ by Bouwens et al.(2012). Below $z = 3.6$, our data suggest that the sSFR are dominated by $\log_{10} M_* \sim 10.5 - 11.0$ galaxies. At $z > 4$ the extrapolations are in agreement with $\log_{10} M_* \sim 9.5$ as evaluated by Bouwens et al.(2012).